



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 4  
SAM NUNN  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA GEORGIA 30303-8960

September 3, 2010

Mr. Tom Currin  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast  
Box 30, Building 903  
Naval Air Station Jacksonville  
Jacksonville, Florida 32212-0030

SUBJECT: Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Navy's Renewal of Authorization to Use Pinecastle Range in the Ocala National Forest, Florida; CEQ Number 20100294

Dear Mr. Currin:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the referenced Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with its responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) prepared a Supplemental EIS to update the impact analysis contained in the 2002 Final EIS for the Renewal of Authorization to Use Pinecastle Range in the Ocala National Forest, Florida. The Supplemental EIS analyzes information that was not available at the time the Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in March 2002. The Final Supplemental EIS analyzes the environmental consequences resulting from the expanded exclusion zones and assesses the effectiveness of existing mitigation measures at Pinecastle Range. Other than these changes, there would be no changes to target areas, ordnance delivery method, the number of flights, or the volume of munitions used at Pinecastle Range for military training.

EPA appreciates the responses to our comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS, particularly the commitment to continue groundwater monitoring in the project area and to consult with the U.S. Forest Service and Florida Trail Association to further refine any mitigation measures related to the Florida National Scenic Trail. Based on our review of the Final Supplemental EIS, EPA has no additional concerns related to this project. EPA recommends that all mitigation measures and monitoring programs be included in the ROD and fully implemented. We appreciate the opportunity to review the proposed action. Please contact Ben West of my staff at (404) 562-9643 if you have any questions or want to discuss our comments further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mueller", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief  
NEPA Program Office  
Office of Policy and Management